Habersham

1341

R. H.,

Augusta Ga

May 29/78

Offers a picture for sale.

COLCORAN GALLERY OF ART,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Return, if not called for in 5 days.

1341

Augusta Geo. May 29. 1878

ack. & refd to the Gallery files

Sir

A lady friend tells me that you have reserved a place in your gallery for a picture by a Southern artist, and that one just finished by me, might meet your views. I believe it to be the only one ever painted in Georgia by a native artist at least if not the first by any other.

The subject is the Crucifixion of Christ. 4ft. 6 in: by 6ft 4 in: The number of figures is 40. arranged in groups around the cross, so as to express the supposed state of things a moment after the earth quake, when darkness is spreading over the scene and lightning descends on the Temple. In the foreground is the restored leper, Nicodemus, Joseph Aramathea & others, variously affected by the sight of the rising dead on the left. Of these the chief figure by eye & attitude directs attention to the cross and its burden. At its feet are the two Marys, fallen to their knees, while the Virgin stands (mater stabat) with St John, on the right. Back of these, the quaternion of Roman soldiers casting lots for the garments: the Centurion in command & the man of the reed & sponge. Beyond these the city & Temple. On the right of the cross are the four doctors reviling & despiting - the Women of Galilee expressing four shades of human faith in Christ, and on either hand the "two thieves"; with their respective friends. These are treated as patriot leaders in Revolt against the Romans, as held by the Syriac manuscript. &c.

The history of the picture is this: I studied art in my youth in France & Italy, but on my return home finding no field in the South for the historical painter, I became a planter and devoted my spare time to literature & science, as bearing on the study of the Bible. The war drove me from my home on the sea islands, and the government took my lands dividing them among negroes, & leaving me in utter poverty. Too old to compete with younger men in the race of business. I turned farming, without capital, & made myself useful in teaching my poor neighbors in the day but chiefly in the Sunday schools. My experience in these, showed me that indifference, infidelity, retaliationism & ultramontanism, were fast loosing the hold of Christianity on the human mind, and that I could use my resources best, by ~~making~~ painting scenes from the life of Christ and making them the subject of exhibition and lecture in which to meet through eye and ear, the great questions of the day. The work completed I hoped I would find for the pictures a place in some large hospital where with printed explanations, they might serve to benefit & relieve the ennui of the convalescents.

In this design I was defeated by failure of means; my paints & brushes giving out, and my health failing. This last however is restored and I desire to carry out my plan. This however I can do only by selling my first picture, and in hope of doing so, I take the very unusual step, I venture on in writing you.

If you will permit me, I will roll up the picture and send it to you by Express. If worthy of a place in your gallery, you can form a better estimate of its value than I can, having never sold a picture of the kind. I expect no great sum of money for it, for even the fact that you had purchased it upon its merits & not from charity, would be of great advantage to me. If it cannot pass muster, you can send it back to me and I receive no injury, as its fitness for lecture purposes would not be deminished. It is true that it would cost you the Express charges, but there I am sure you will excuse me for the chance of aiding me in my design.

I paint very rapidly "au premier coup" and in half a dozen years, could easily accomplish my object. If God spares my life and if not the intention is not one of those that go to pave Hell.

I write this on the principle that he who cannot risk something deserves not to succeed but if I could, I would avoid all risk by conveying myself & picture to you instead of writing.

With great respect, founded on the opinions of those who profess to know you.

I remain Your Humble Servant,

R. M. Habersham.

Our "municipal men" here are a generation

behind the age in art appreciation - a chromo type being their standard of value & a photograph the perfection of execution. Besides there really is no money to spare from the all absorbing fight for the preservation of what is left us - and for the development of our manufacturing resources. An earnest effort made by me to introduce drawing into our public school system, as the best way of preparing mechanics for our needs, is not appreciated.

1342

Wilson

Dr M. A.

258. W. 39th St,

N. Y. Apl 26/78

Apl 29/78,

With regard to the painting "Womans Devotion" by Oregon Wilson.

✓

CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Return, if not called for in 5 days.

1342

Rec'd & Ans'd. Apl. 29

New York Apr 26. 78

The Curator of the Corcoran
Gallery of Art. Washington

Dear Sir

I am informed by Mr S Strobhart of Baltimore who is now here that his Brother Mr R. S. Strobhart of your City that he has conferred with you in regard to having the Painting of my Deceased Brother Oregon Wilson, entitled "Womans Devotion" Now Hanging in Gen'l Shermans Hd Qrs War Dep't transferred to the Corcoran Gallery of

Art, and there placed on exhibition.
Please say if such is the
fact, and if the Painting will
be acceptable and on what
terms and conditions it will
be taken.

Very Respt Yours
M. A. Wilson M.D.
Jr.
Administrator

No 258 W 39th St
New York

1343

Norton C. B.

New York

Apl 29. 1878.

Will send two Photos.

✓

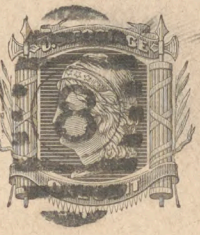
CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Return, if not called for in 5 days.

1343

POSTAL CARD.

NEW-YORK
APR 29
6 PM



WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE—THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER

William Merchant Esq
Corcoran Gallery of Art
Washington
D.C.

Office 25 Astor House
New York April 29/78

Dear Sir

Having found the two photos to which I referred I send them to you merely as curious — Shall be glad to hear any news in reference to Master 12th Painting

Very truly

C. W. Moulton

May Mrs A. E. 1344

May 2. 1878

May 3. 1878

Directing how "Washington on horseback" was to be packed & shipped.

1344

615 H. St.
May 2nd -

Dr. Barbarin
Dear Sir

Be kind enough to have the painting of "Washington on horseback" carefully packed & shipped to New York (by steamer) to this address.

J. Le. Riffard Esq.
42 Vesey St.
New York
N.Y.

Send bill for packing &c to same address by mail. It will be pd. at once - if not I'll pay it.

Respt'fly Yours
Annie E. May.

Wilson M. A. 1345

N. Y. May 2/78.

May 3/78.

In reference to painting of "Womans Devotion."

V

M. A. Wilson Esq.

In reference to painting of Womans Devotion

New York

May 2/78

Recd Washington May 3/78

1345

New York May 2. 78

Wm MacLeod Esq. Curator
Washington

Dear Sir

Yours of the 29th is at hand. we did not suppose or think that the painting was on exhibition in the Corcoran Gallery, but wished to be informed as to the probable admission of it to your Gallery. We needed to understand that the painting had been seen by you or the proper authorities and all that was necessary was my consent to its removal to the Gallery.

The facts in the case are these, the painting was

time of its remaining there is there
No deviation of the rules so
that it could remain a longer time.

Col Audendied has quite
a collection of papers in regard
to its history &c that he will
No doubt be pleased to show you

I have been under the
impression that the Col would
Not object to its return to the
present location, I will however
ascertain that fact.

What are the
probabilities of its acceptance
by the Committee on Art

Trusting that you
will favor me with an early reply

I remain,
Yours Respectfully
M. A. Wilson
per Brother

P.S.
My Brother is very Ill.

on exhibition at the Centennial
was there seen and greatly admired
by Genl Sherman who expressed
a desire to purchase it for the
Department, if their funds would
admit of so doing, it was accordingly
sent to the Hd Qrs of Genl Sherman
and she has kindly taken care of
it ever since, we desire very
much to sell it, and it was
suggested that we place it on
exhibition at the Corcoran Gallery
as it would be seen by a great
many more people and therefore
increase the chances of its sale,

It seems that the time
of exhibition is limited to four
months, as it is so near the
adjournment of Congress that it
would hardly have a fair chance
before the expiration of the time,
of being seen as by a longer

1346.

Clements,
D. D.,
for Harriet Usher.

May 6. 1878.
" 22. "

Offers portrait of G. W.
P. Custis for $75.00
Sends the portrait

✓

Read June 4 1878.

New York, May 2nd 1878.

Gentlemen,

We shall transmit tomorrow by Express, (Adams) the Picture by Waldo, directed to your Gallery.

Please give it a favourable consideration. If this will have any weight in your conclusion, I will state, that a collateral kinsman, Capt. Robert Clements of the East India Service was also connected with Mr Bacon, thro the Levering family of Baltimore, Col. Aaron Levering, having married the Widow of Robert Clements (over)

This gentleman was collateral with my family.

It is in favour of the Widow of Mr Usher, late owner of the Portrait, that I make this avowal, and not from personal motives. Besides, I think you will concur with me in believing that the proper place for the picture is some public institution,

Yours with esteem,

Henry A. Clements,

Rec'd May 18 '78

Heraldic Bureau.
Murray St.
New York City.

Gentlemen,

Som correspondent has in his possession, a half-length Portrait of George Washington Parke Custis. by Waldo.

We can afford to dispose of it at $75 and offer You the opportunity of securing a historical work of interest with a view of preservation, rather than of profit.

Should You think favourably of the proposition, please address a line to Jas. Nisbet as subscribed as indicated, and further particulars will be communicated

Henry H. Clements for Harriet Nisbet

John Custis 1640 Six sons and one daughter,
The dau married Col Argal Yeardley. Sons of the Gov,
Sons: John, William and Joseph. Thomas in
Baltimore Ireland. Robert resided in Rotterdam
Edmund in London,
John an active man, a favorite with Lord Arling-
-ton, for whom he called his estate.
John.
John 4th of the name, Educated in England,
received from his grandfather the Arlington estate,
He married dau. of Daniel Park and
was father of Wm, whose widow married
General Washington. (Meade's Virginia)

The family name of Arlington was Ben-
-nett and one of the family was a Magis-
-trate in Maryland with Claybourn,
under Lord Baltimore,

Daniell A. M. 1347

Boston May 4/78

May 6/78.

In reference to Photo.
signed in mail.

M. M. Daniell
in reference to Photos
Boston
May 4/78

H. W. Daniell,
87 Milk Street, Boston.

P. O. Box 1283.

Rec'd back May 6.

1347

May 4/78

My Dear Ed

Your postal rec'd
I trust you rec'd my Enclosure
of Stamps — The photo came
to hand but unfortunately the
board was so limber that was
put in to protect it — That it
had been doubled into two
cracking the picture the whole
length! ~~Don't~~ you can
send me two impressions not
mounted some time when you

are have mor jonnied. I
should be glad there could
Eenly be sent rolled up.
When you send them I send
me portal of Resume including
postage.

Very Truly Yours
Henry W Daniel

I consider of course the
picture sent my risk.
And only mention this, that you
might guard against the breaking
in sending other pictures

1348

Smith
Miss S. E.

Salem Mass
May 9. 1878

May 11/78.

In regard to receiving her portrait of Comm Morris.

V

COLUMBIAN GALLERY OF ART.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Return, if not called for in 5 days.

1348

Recd. May 11

Salem May 9th 78.

Dear Sir.

Yours of the 3rd instant would have received earlier notice had I not been out of town - I will write immediately to Mrs. Forg & she, or some other member of Mrs. Morris's family will take charge of the

portrait. I had supposed that it was Mr Corcoran's wish that the portrait of his father in law should remain in the Gallery until it was claimed by the owner, Mr Fay, or his representative.

I was glad to hear from friends who have visited Washington the past win-

ter, that your Gallery has been unusually attractive with many thanks for your courtesy -

Very truly yours
Harriet E. Smith.

Dr. William Rhees Lead.

Koekkoek Jr
H.

1349

London May 2/78

May 14
June 2/78

Describing pictures for sale;

H. Koekkoek Jr
artist
London
Describing pictures for Sale
May 2. 178

1349

the great Gold medal of Honour given by the King of Holland.

I have only given a few of those now hanging in the Gallery.

I am a marine painter myself. Desiring to have the pleasure of a future correspondence

Am Sir.

Yours Faithfully

H. Koekkoek Jr.

MODERN PICTURES H. KOEKKOEK JUNR AND DRAWINGS

72, PICCADILLY,

Fine Art Gallery

Rec. May 4/75 Ackd

2 May 1875.

W. Mac Leod Esqre

Sir.

In compliance with the wish of Mr E. A. Punchon, who has kindly given me the enclosed letter of introduction I give the following few names of those works which now form the small but choice collection now on Exhibition in my New Gallery and shall feel much pleasure in entering into Correspondence

respecting the same and
should you contemplate
a visit to England shall
be very pleased to shew
you everything I have
or your agent in Londin
if favoured with a call

B. C. Koekkoek
a Sunny Landscape
& figures exquisitely
finished. a very brilliant
& charming work.

Koller & de Nobre
an interior with a lady
seated at a table full
of accessories in a silk
dress, vases with flowers
a beautifull work

Eugene Verboeckhoven
an important work & with Pups
several smaller ones

C. J. Phlippeau
Italian peasants. beauti-
full painted.

H. Ronner
Animals. charmingly
painted.

Valkenburg (Pupil of Isaacs.
Pancake day, pourtrayed
in Colour & bold in effect
Cuttin. a very clever
work.

Herman ten Kate (Cuyp painter
Cavaliers. very clever.

J. Koekkoek Jnr.
A Squally day full
of incident on the Beach
are many figures boats
& c. true to nature.

Received for this picture

Sherman Genl & others.

1350

May 16. 1878.

The Committee state the hour for Prof Henry's funeral.

1350

Smithsonian Institution

May 16. 1878.

To the Hon-

The Board of Trustees of the

Corcoran Gallery of Art

Gentlemen- The Committee of Arrangments for the Funeral of the late Professor Henry respectfully extend to you an invitation to be present at the ceremonies this afternoon at 4.30 O'clock, in the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church

Genl Sherman
Dr. Peter Parker
Professor Baird
} Committee